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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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COMMENTS

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
BIR Road, East Triangle, Diliman, Quezon City

TB OKT03-38

January 31, 2003

RUSH

MEMORANDUM ORDER:

Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company (PLDT)
and SMART Communications Inc.
GLOBE Telecom Inc.
BAYAN Telecommunications Company

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) of the United States of America has brought to our attention that at least three (3) carriers referring to you that terminate international traffic in the Philippines are threatening to disrupt circuits of US carriers on the US-Philippines route beginning February 1, 2003. This is due to your decision to increase termination rates.

Disruption of service, especially at this volatile time is definitely prejudicial to public interest and national welfare.

In the interest of service, to avoid disruption to the communications networks, and to ensure that telecommunications circuits remain open between the Philippines and the United States of America and other countries, you are hereby **DIRECTED TO MAINTAIN THE STATUS QUO OF THE EXISTING CIRCUITS AND TERMINATION RATES AS OF THIS DATE.** You are, nonetheless, encouraged to continue to negotiate on the merits of your move to increase termination rates and conclude agreements mutually reached with no untoward repercussions to service and national welfare.

This Order shall apply to all Philippine telecommunication carriers similarly situated.

FOR COMPLIANCE.

ARMILIANO R. BORJE
CommissionerKATHLEEN G. HECETA
Deputy CommissionerJORGE V. SARMIENTO
Deputy Commissioner

Copy furnished: The Executive Secretary, Malacatang
The Secretary, Dept. of Transportation and Communications
Attn: Undersecretary Virgilio L. Peña
Telecommunication Operators of the Philippines